

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~H20016~~ CH-843
Address: 900 Washington Avenue, Charles County - in the vicinity of La Plata
Owner: Unknown
Tax Parcel Number: 418 Tax Map Number: 33
Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)
Site visit by SHA Staff: ☒ no ___ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ☒ None
Is property located within a historic district?: ☒ no ___ yes Name of District: _____
Is district listed?: ☒ no ___ yes
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

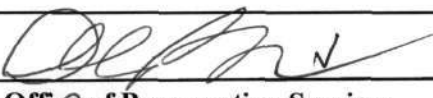
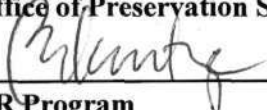
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

900 Washington Avenue is one story in height and three bays wide. This wood frame dwelling has a side gable roof. The central entry is covered by a front gable roof portico supported by decorative iron posts. The main entry is flanked by single 1/1, double-hung, metal sash windows. The house has a brick base with a rowlock-coursed cap. The upper portion of the house is clad with asbestos siding. An interior, brick chimney rises above the roof at the northern gable wall.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments contributed to the suburbanization of Charles County. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s.

World War II and the increasing dependence upon motor vehicles played a very important role in La Plata's community development. Charles County continued its relative isolation from large-scale residential and commercial

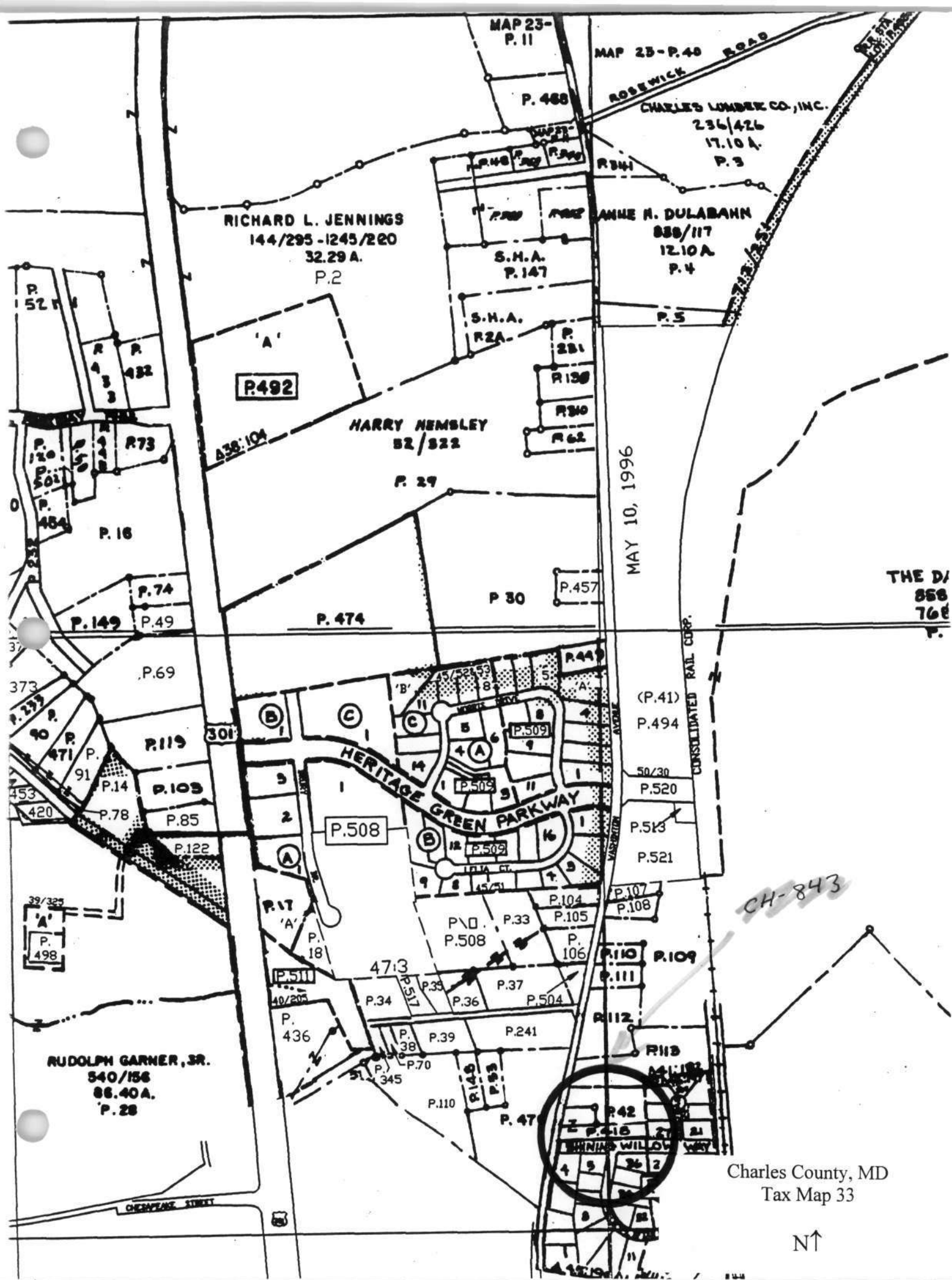
Prepared by EHT Traceries, Inc.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ___ A ___ B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C ___ D	Consideration ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F ___ G ___ None
	
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date 10/27/99
Reviewer, NR Program	Date 1/19/02

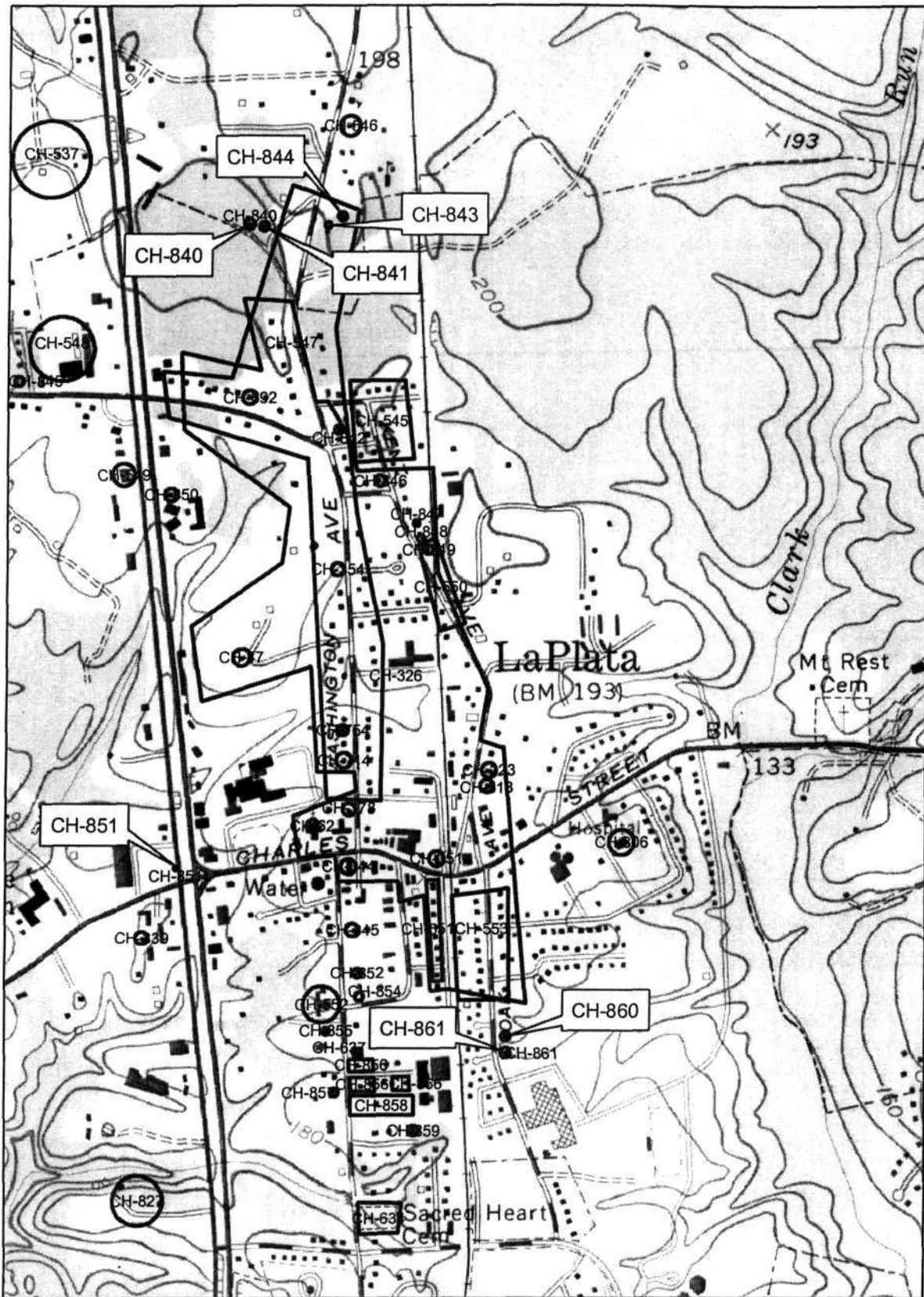
development until after Crain Highway was dualized and designated U.S. 301 in the 1960s. Earlier trends in travel-related services and entertainment along the Crain Highway grew somewhat when the highway was extended across the Potomac River to Virginia through southern Charles County and over the new Harry W. Nice Bridge in 1940, thus completing a route from New York to Florida.

Modern development of Northern Charles County began in the early 1970s as the suburbs of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties became costly and congested. This influx of residents has continued over the last few decades as modern road networks have provided commuters easy access to Washington, D.C., Annapolis, Baltimore, and other cities. By 1980, the population of Charles County increased to 72,000, tripling the number of people living in the area before 1950. Although Northern Charles County, along U.S. 301, had been significantly developed before the 1990s, the majority of Southern Charles County had remained rural and agricultural. Within the last five years, Southern Charles County has experienced significant change in the form of residential housing developments.

Built circa 1960, this vernacular house is not eligible for the National Register. While typical of the modest residential development within La Plata, this resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.



CH843
La Plata
Quad





~~#2000~~ CH-843

900 Washington Avenue
Charles County, MD
Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking northeast
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